

I was very upset at the pressure Sinclair is putting on its affiliate stations to disrupt their regular programming to air the very partisan show against Senator John Kerry. People are free to pay to go and see movies and videos. Sinclair gets its rights to use the public airwaves free of charge, and is under legal obligation to serve the public interest. Requiring affiliate stations to show a clearly partisan show does not meet the public interest, unless they follow that show with a similarly partisan show on the other side, such as Upriver-- at an equally convenient time for viewers.

My father, Merle Floegel, worked many years for the FCC, and was very proud of his work. If he were still living, he would be very upset to see the consolidation of control of the airwaves, and the demise of much local programming.

The FCC definitely needs to make media ownership rules stronger, not weaker. License-seekers need to PROVE that they are benefitting the public interest, and that they are worthy to keep their license.

I hope you will call Sinclair to account if they carry out their intended aim of using public airwaves for strictly partisan purposes.